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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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\$21 MILLION IN FEDERAL AID FUNDS APPORTIONED TO
STATES FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE RESTORATION WORK

State programs to restore and develop the sport fishery and wildlife resources in the 48 States will move at an accelerated pace during fiscal year 1957 with a foundation of \$21,062,000 in Federal aid funds, Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton announced today. This is about \$2 million more than in 1956.

The 1957 total includes the second 20 percent--\$2,693,494--of the accumulated backlog of Federal aid in wildlife restoration funds, the appropriation of which was authorized over a period of five years by an Act approved by the Congress in August 1955. This reserve of \$13,467,468 accumulated from 1939 to 1946 and particularly during World War II years when Congress did not appropriate total receipts annually from the 11 percent excise tax on sporting arms and ammunition.

On the basis of one dollar from the State for every three of Federal funds, \$28,083,000 will be available to State conservation departments for their restoration programs during fiscal year 1957.

The combined Federal Aid in Fish and Wildlife Restoration program is administered by the Fish and Wildlife Service under the terms of the Pittman-Robertson Act for wildlife and the Dingell-Johnson Act for sport fishing. As prescribed in the two Acts, investments are made in restoration activities so that benefits will go to the hunters and anglers who seek recreation and food from the Nation's fields and streams.

This year the various State fish and game departments will receive \$16,236,000 for their wildlife restoration projects and \$4,826,000 for their sport fishery activities. The wildlife total is an increase of \$1,956,006 over last year's revised apportionment of \$14,279,994 which included the first 20 percent of the accumulated reserve. The amount available for sport fishery projects represents a drop of \$101,400 below the 1956 total of \$4,927,400.

Under the Pittman-Robertson Act, the total regular appropriation of \$14,302,000 plus the second 20 percent of \$2,693,494 in reserve funds, making a total appropriation of \$16,995,000, includes \$144,000 set aside for wildlife restoration in Alaska (\$90,000), Hawaii (\$30,000), Puerto Rico (\$12,000), and the Virgin

Islands (\$12,000), and funds for the administration of the Act. The total regular appropriation represents the entire amount credited to the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Fund during the preceding fiscal year from the 11 percent Federal excise tax on sporting arms and ammunition levied on the manufacturers.

The revenue for the Federal share of the sport fish restoration program comes from the 10 percent excise tax on fishing rods, creels, reels, artificial lures, baits, and flies, paid by the manufacturers of these products. Collections from this source during the year ended June 30, 1956, amounted to \$5,149,918. From this total is taken the annual apportionments of \$75,000 to Alaska, \$25,000 to Hawaii, \$10,000 each to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, and the cost of administering the Act by the Fish and Wildlife Service.

The formula prescribed for use by the Fish and Wildlife Service in making State allotments for wildlife projects is: One-half the sum to be apportioned is divided according to the ratio which the area of each State bears to the area of all the States. The remaining half is divided on the ratio of paid hunting license holders in each State to the total number of paid license holders in all States.

The Pittman-Robertson Act also provides that no State shall receive more than five percent, nor less than one-half of one percent, of the total amount available to all the States. On this basis, Michigan and Texas are given the maximum apportionment this year of \$811,800 each, while Connecticut, Delaware, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont receive the minimum of \$81,180 each.

To provide fair distribution of Federal funds for sport fishery projects, 40 percent of the sum to be apportioned is computed in the ratio which the area of each State, including coastal and Great Lakes waters, bears to the total area of all the States, and 60 percent in the ratio which the number of paid sport fishing license holders in the State bears to the number of such persons in all the States.

The Dingell-Johnson Act also provides that no States shall receive less than one percent nor more than five percent of the total funds apportioned to all States. This provision allows the small States enough working capital to finance comparatively big projects. This year, California, Michigan, and Minnesota are given the maximum apportionment of \$241,300 each, while Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Vermont, and West Virginia will receive the minimum of \$48,260.

To obtain the benefits of the Federal grants, the States submit project proposals to the Fish and Wildlife Service. Such proposals may consist of surveys, investigations, land acquisitions, land and water development, management of restoration areas, and maintenance of the completed projects. Acting for the Secretary of the Interior, the Service reviews these proposals to determine whether they are substantial in character and design, within the meaning of the Acts.

When Federal Aid projects are approved by the Service, the State fish and game departments proceed to carry out the plans, spending their own funds. The States then submit reimbursement claims for 75 percent of the costs of the project, either periodically or at the completion of the work. The remaining 25 percent of project expenditure is financed out of regular State funds. All equipment, lands, and structures become the property of the States. All project workers are hired by the States and are State employees.

Apportionments to the 48 States for fiscal year 1957 for both fish and wildlife projects are as follows:

FISH

WILDLIFE

ALABAMA	\$ 66,666.23	\$ 287,788.29
ARIZONA	84,628.46	361,637.73
ARKANSAS ✓	91,850.01	277,294.93
CALIFORNIA	241,300.00	777,565.54
COLORADO	113,759.81	485,842.98
CONNECTICUT	48,260.00	81,180.00
DELAWARE	48,260.00	81,180.00
FLORIDA	94,200.28	227,370.97
GEORGIA	101,101.06	401,083.13
IDAHO	84,885.44	330,805.48
ILLINOIS	170,857.14	446,687.62
INDIANA	118,403.23	355,643.56
IOWA	96,156.64	351,096.20
KANSAS	79,415.49	326,022.58
KENTUCKY	86,116.99	252,880.49
LOUISIANA	62,360.98	268,480.05
MAINE	52,533.56	189,789.26
MARYLAND	48,260.00	108,447.85
MASSACHUSETTS	48,260.00	90,494.35
MICHIGAN	241,300.00	811,800.00
MINNESOTA	241,300.00	507,335.81
MISSISSIPPI	52,494.07	239,533.43
MISSOURI	131,570.42	369,988.96
MONTANA	114,342.85	494,980.53
NEBRASKA	78,841.23	308,928.94
NEVADA	68,888.10	315,453.71
NEW HAMPSHIRE	48,260.00	81,180.00
NEW JERSEY	48,260.00	121,636.01
NEW MEXICO	81,346.07	371,304.37
NEW YORK	157,763.52	670,184.92
NORTH CAROLINA	82,053.76	339,320.34
NORTH DAKOTA	50,859.24	248,832.20
OHIO	162,996.28	475,076.23
OKLAHOMA	103,394.13	287,483.11
OREGON	103,599.65	410,673.56
PENNSYLVANIA	141,976.16	638,190.89
RHODE ISLAND	48,260.00	81,180.00
SOUTH CAROLINA	69,354.44	174,306.71
SOUTH DAKOTA	63,949.04	303,717.90
TENNESSEE ✓	140,219.71	355,843.83
TEXAS	220,773.17	811,800.00
UTAH	73,599.13	322,936.60
VERMONT	48,260.00	81,180.00
VIRGINIA	81,849.34	325,287.43
WASHINGTON	97,344.46	349,256.80
WEST VIRGINIA	48,260.00	213,517.95
WISCONSIN	207,390.99	486,128.61
WYOMING	80,218.92	337,660.15